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(54) Modified conductor loaded cavity resonator with improved spurious performance

(57) A microwave cavity (4) has a cut resonator (3) therein that is conductor-loaded. The resonators (5) have a modified shape. Filters made from one or more cavities (6) having cut resonators (5) therein have improved spurious performance over previous filters. A filter can have two conductor loaded resonators (5)in one cavity (10) or a combination of conductor loaded resonators (5)and dielectric resonators (16) in different cavities(7). The cut resonator (3) is out of contact with a wall of the cavity (4).

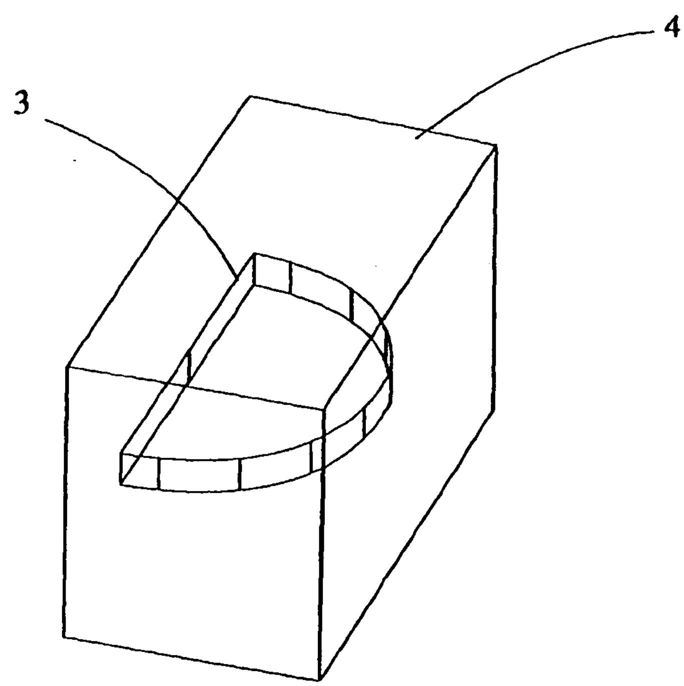

Figure 2

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Description

[0001] The present invention is related to microwave bandpass filters and more particularly to the realization of compact size conductor-loaded cavity filters for use in space, wireless applications and other applications where size and spurious performance of the bandpass filters are critical.

[0002] Microwave filters are key components of any communication systems. Such a system, be it wireless or satellite, requires filters to separate the signals received into channels for amplification and processing. The phenomenal growth in telecommunication industry in recent years has brought significant advances in filter technology as new communication systems emerged demanding equipment miniaturization while requiring more stringent filter characteristics. Over the past decade, the dielectric resonator technology has been the technology of choice for passive microwave filters for wireless and satellite applications.

[0003] Figure 1 illustrates the traditional dual-mode conductor-loaded cavity resonator. The resonator 1 is mounted in a planar configuration inside a rectangular cavity 2. Table 1 provides the resonant frequency of the first three resonant modes.

Table I

Resonant frequency of prior art dual-mode conductor loaded cavity resonators Metal puck: (0.222" x 2.4" dia), Rectangular cavity: (1.9" x 3.2" x 3.2") Cylindrical cavity: 1.9" x 3.2" dia.		
Mode	Resonant Frequency Rectangular Cavity	Resonant Frequency Cylindrical Cavity
Mode 1	1.889 GHz	1.940 GHz
Mode 2	2.506 GHz	2.733 GHz
Mode 3	3.434 GHz	3.322 GHz

[0004] It is an object of the present invention to provide a novel configuration etc. both single mode and dual mode dielectric resonator filters have been employed for such applications. It is a further object of the present invention to provide a conductor-loaded cavity resonator filter that can be used in conventional and cryogenic applications. It is still another object of the present invention to provide a filter that is compact in size with a remarkable loss spurious performance compared to previous filters.

[0005] A microwave cavity has at least one wall. The cavity has a cut resonator located therein, the resonator being out of contact with the at least one wall.

[0006] A bandpass filter has at least one cavity. The at least one cavity has a cut resonator therein. The cavity has at least one wall and the resonator is out of contact with the at least one wall.

[0007] A method of improving the spurious performance of a bandpass filter, the method comprising a cut resonator in at least one cavity of the filter, the cavity having at least one wall and the resonator being located out of contact with the at least one wall.

[0008] In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a prior art dual mode conductor-loaded cavity resonator where the resonator is mounted inside a metallic enclosure;
Figure 2 is a perspective view of a half cut resonator contained within a cavity;
Figure 3 is a perspective view of a modified half cut resonator contained within a cavity;
Figure 4 is a top view of a shaped resonator;
Figure 5 is a top view of a two pole filter containing shaped resonators;
Figure 6 is a graph showing the measured isolation results of the filter described in Figure 5;
Figure 7 is a schematic top view of an 8-pole filter having conductor-loaded resonators in two cavities and dielectric resonators in the remaining cavity;
Figure 8 is a schematic top view of an 8-pole filter having conductor-loaded resonators in three cavities and dielectric resonators in the remaining cavities;
Figure 9 is a schematic top view of a dual-mode filter having two conductor loaded resonators in each cavity.

[0009] The resonator of Figure 1 is a metallic resonator and the cavity 2 is a metallic enclosure. The electric field of the first mode resembles the TE_{11} in cylindrical cavities. Thus, the use of a magnetic wall symmetry will not change the field distribution and consequently the resonant frequency.

[0010] In Figure 2, there is shown a half cut resonator 3 mounted in a cavity 4. It can be seen that the resonator 3 has a semicircular shape. The resonator 3 is mounted on a support (not shown) and is out of contact with walls of the

cavity 4. The resonator 3 does not touch the walls of the cavity 4. The cavity 4 has almost half the volume of the cavity 2 shown in Figure 1. A dielectric support structure (not shown) is used in both Figures 1 and 2 to support the resonator.

[0011] With the us of the magnetic wall symmetry concept, a half-cut version of the conductor-loaded resonator with a modified shape can be realized as shown in Figure 3. The half-cut resonator would have a slightly higher resonant frequency with a size that is 50% of the original dual-mode cavity. The technique proposed in Wang et al "Dual mode conductor-loaded cavity filters" I. EEE Transactions on Microwave Theory and Techniques, V45, N. 8, 1997 can be applied for shaping dielectric resonators to conductor-loaded cavity resonators. In Figure 4, there is shown a top view of the modified half-cut resonator of Figure 3. The original half-cut resonator described in Figure 2 is selectively machined to enhance the separation between the resonant frequencies of the dominant and the first higher-order mode. It can be seen that a substantially rectangular cutaway portion exists in a straight edge of the resonator 5 and a larger rectangular shaped cut away portion is located in the arcuate edge of the resonator 5. Both of the cut away portions are substantially centrally located.

[0012] Table 2 provides the resonant frequencies of the first three modes of the half-cut conductor-loaded resonator. Even though the TM mode has been shifted away, the spurious performance of the resonator has degraded.

Table 2

The resonant frequencies of the first three modes of the half-cut conductor-loaded resonator	
Mode	Resonant Frequency
Mode 1	2.119 GHz
Mode 2	2.234 GHz
Mode 3	3.824 GHz

[0013] Table 3 gives the resonant frequencies of the first three modes of the modified half-cut resonator. A comparison between Tables 2 and 3 illustrates that the spurious performance of the modified half-cut resonator is superior to that of dual-mode resonators. It is interesting to note that shaping the resonator as shown in Figure 3 has shifted Mode 1 down in frequency while shifting Mode 2 up in frequency. This translates to a size reduction and a significant improvement in spurious performance.

Table 3.

The resonant frequencies of the first three modes of the modified half-cut conductor-loaded resonator	
Mode	Resonate Frequency
Mode 1	1.559 GHz
Mode 2	2.980 GHz
Mode 3	3.535 GHz

[0014] It is well known that dielectric resonators filters suffer from limitations in spurious performance and power handling capability. By combining the dielectric resonators with the resonator disclosed in this invention both the spurious performance and power handling capability of dielectric resonator filters can be considerably improved.

[0015] Figure 4 shows a resonator 5 mounted inside an enclosure 6. The resonator 5 is a modified version of the resonator 3 shown in Figure 2 where a metal is machined out in specific areas to improve the spurious performance of the resonator. Figure 4 is an actual picture of the resonator 5 in the open cavity 6.

[0016] Figure 5 shows a picture of a two pole filter built using the resonator 5. The filter consists of two resonators coupled by an iris (not shown). Figure 6 shows the experimental isolation results of the filter shown in Figure 5. The results demonstrate the improvement in spurious performance. The spurious area is located at approximately twice the filter centre frequency.

[0017] Figure 7 shows an eight-pole filter where six dielectric resonators 16 are used in six cavities 7 in combination with two half-cut metallic resonators 5 in two cavities 7. The RF energy is coupled to the filter through input/output probes 8, 9 respectively. The metallic resonators could be placed horizontally as shown in Figure 7 or vertically. Even though the dielectric resonator filters have a limited spurious performance, the addition of the two metallic resonators considerably improves the overall spurious performance of the filter. In Figure 7, the metallic resonators are placed in the first and last cavities. However, metallic resonators can be placed in any of the cavities.

[0018] Figure 8 shows an eight-pole filter where five dielectric resonators 16 are located in five cavities 7 in combination with three half-cut m tallic resonators 5 located in three cavities 7. The RF energy is coupled to the filter through

input/output probes 8, 9 respectively. The metallic resonators are placed in the first three cavities to improve the power handling capability of the dielectric resonator filter. It well known that, in high power applications, high electric field will build up in the first three cavities. Such high field translates into heat, which in turn degrades the Q of the resonator, and affects the integrity of the support structure. The problem can be circumvented by replacing the dielectric resonators in these cavities with metallic resonators disclosed in this invention. In both Figure 7 and Figure 8, there is one resonator in each cavity.

[0019] Figure 9 shows a four pole dual-mode filter consisting of two dual-mode resonators 10 in each cavity 7. Each dual-mode resonator is formed by combining two single-mode resonators 5. The end result is a compact dual-mode resonator with an improved spurious performance.

[0020] A combination of dielectric resonators and conductor-loaded cavity resonators in the same filter improves the spurious performance of dielectric resonator filters over dielectric resonator filters that do not have any conductor-loaded cavity resonators. The use of conductor-loaded cavity resonators in the same filter in combination with dielectric resonators extend the power handling capability of dielectric resonator filters.

[0021] Various materials are suitable for the resonators. For example, the resonator can be made of any metal or it can be made of superconductive material either by a thick film coating or bulk superconductor materials or single crystal or by other means. Copper is an example of a suitable metal.

Claims

1. A cavity having at least one wall, said cavity comprising a cut resonator located therein, said resonator being out of contact with said at least one wall.

2. A cavity as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said cavity has a half-cut resonator located therein.

3. A cavity as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said resonator is a conductor-loaded resonator.

4. A cavity as claimed in Claim 3, wherein said cavity has a rectangular shape and said resonator is planar mounted.

5. A cavity as claimed in Claim 4, wherein said resonator has a modified shape.

6. A cavity as claimed in Claim 5, wherein said modified shape has at least one cut away portion.

7. A cavity as claimed in Claim 5, wherein said modified shape has at least a first cut away portion and a second cut away portion.

8. A cavity as claimed in Claim 5, wherein said resonator has a semicircular shape with one straight edge and a first cutaway portion having a rectangular shape and being substantially centrally located in said straight edge.

9. A cavity as claimed in Claim 5,6,7 or 8, wherein said resonator has a substantially arcuate edge and a second cut away portion having a rectangular shape that is substantially centrally located in said arcuate edge.

10. A cavity as claimed in any preceding Claim, wherein said resonator is made from metal.

11. A cavity as claimed in Claim 5, wherein the modified shape of said resonator are cut away portions in specific areas to improve spurious performance.

12. A cavity as claimed in any preceding Claim, wherein said resonator is made from superconductive material.

13. A cavity as claimed in Claim 3, wherein said conductor loaded resonator is used in combination with at least one dielectric resonator.

14. A cavity as claimed in any preceding Claim, wherein there are at least two conductor loaded resonators located in said cavity to create a dual mode conductor-loaded cavity resonator with improved spurious performance.

15. A cavity as claimed in Claim 3,13 or 14, wherein said conductor loaded resonator is made from a material selected from the group of metallic, superconductive, thick film superconductive and single crystal.

16. A cavity as claimed in any preceding Claim, wherein said resonator is made from copper.

17. A cavity as claimed in Claim 9, wherein said second cut away portion is larger than said first cut away portion.

18. A cavity as claimed in Claim 5, wherein the modified shape of said resonator is cut away portions in specific areas to improve spurious performance.

19. A cavity as claimed in any preceding Claim, wherein said resonator has a mode selected from the group of a single mode and a dual mode.

20. A bandpass filter comprising at least one cavity as claimed in any preceding claim.

21. A filter as claimed in Claim 20, wherein said filter has at least two cavities, there being a conductor-loaded resonator in one of said at least two cavities and a dielectric resonator in the other of said at least two cavities.

22. A filter as claimed in Claim 20, wherein said filter has eight cavities, a first cavity and a last cavity containing conductor loaded resonators and the remaining cavities containing dielectric resonators.

23. A filter as claimed in Claim 20, wherein said filter has eight cavities, a first second and third cavity each containing a conductor-loaded resonator and the remaining cavities containing dielectric resonators.

24. A method of improving the spurious performance of a bandpass filter, said method comprising locating a cut resonator in at least one cavity of said filter, said cavity having at least one wall and said resonator being located our of contact with said at least one wall.

25. A method as claimed in claim 25, wherein said cut resonator is a conductor-loaded cut resonator.

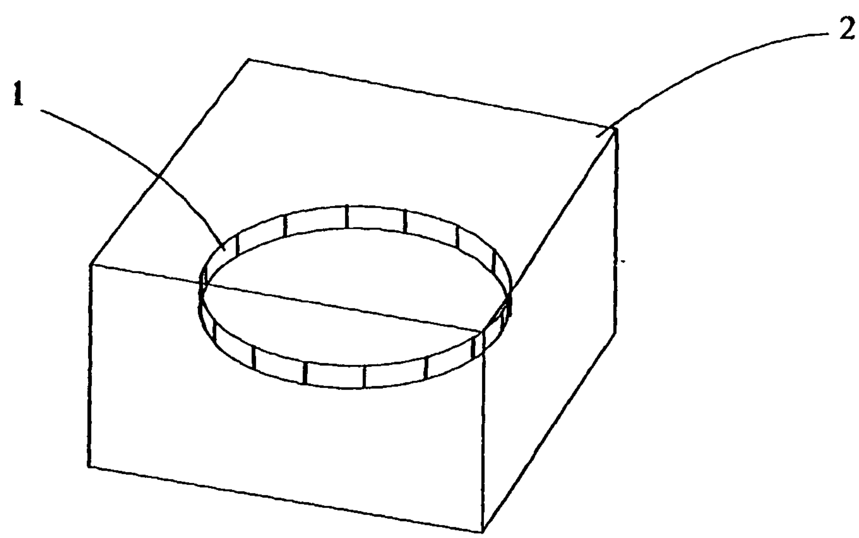

Figure 1. Prior Art

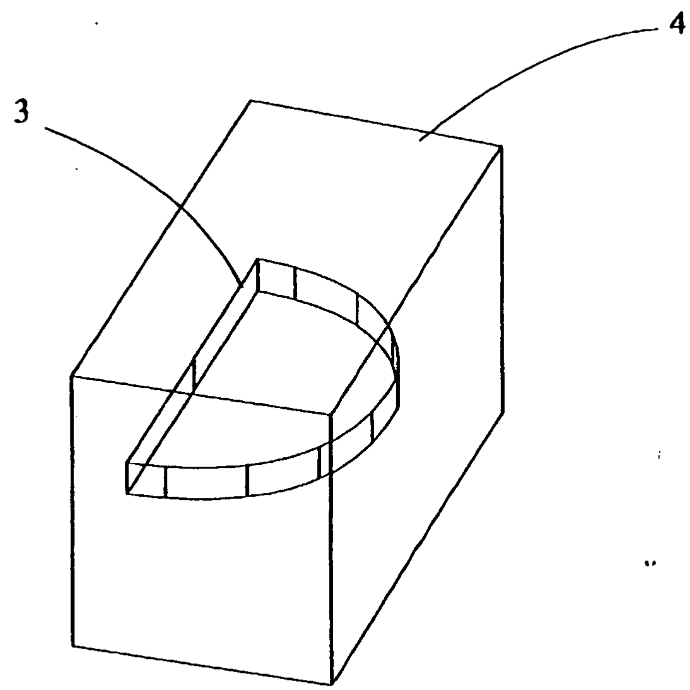

Figure 2

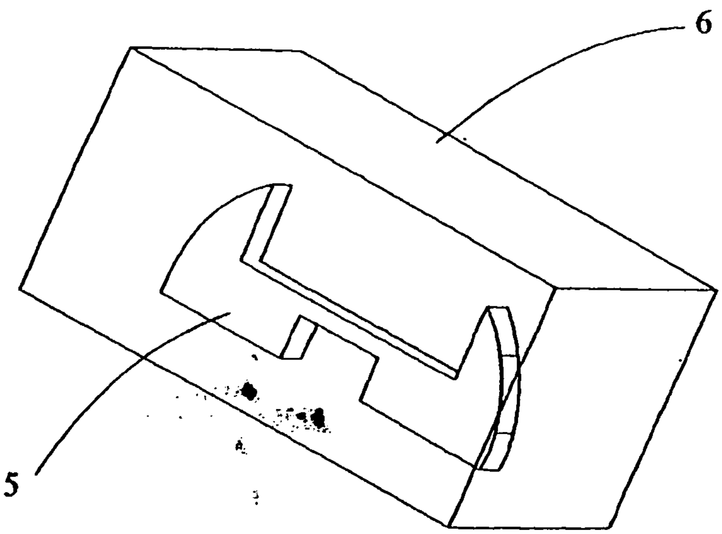

Figure 3

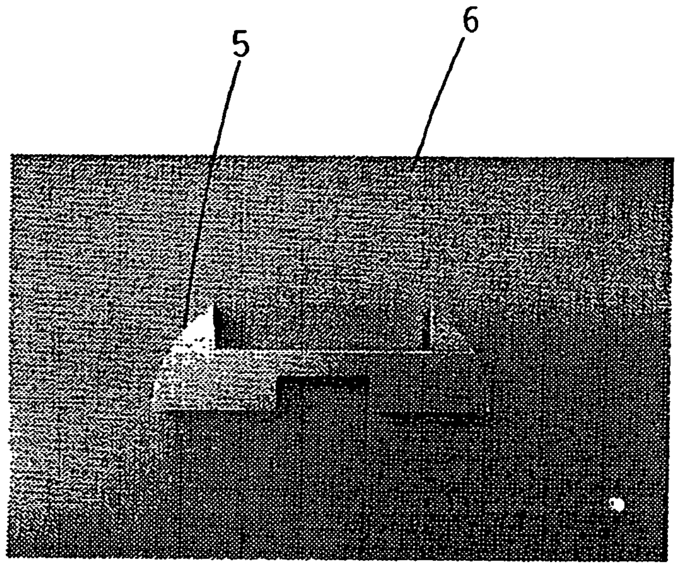

Figure 4

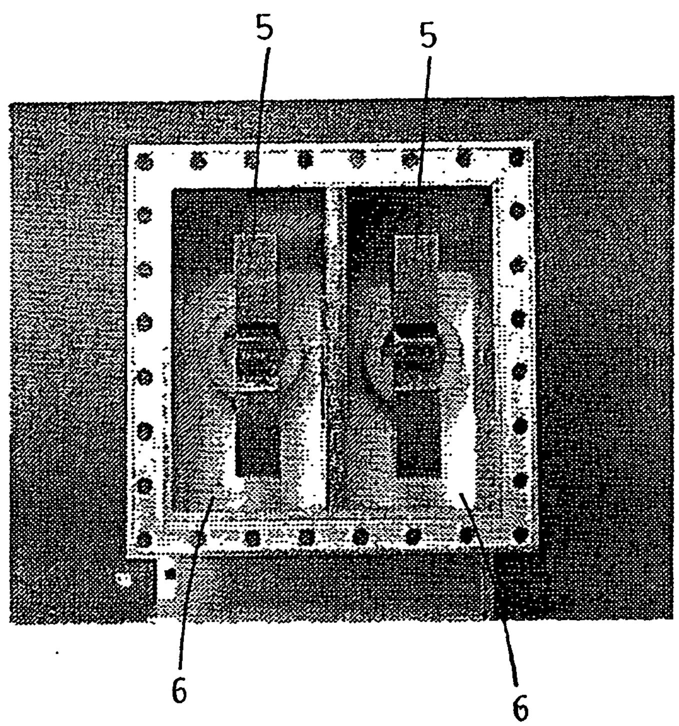

Figure 5

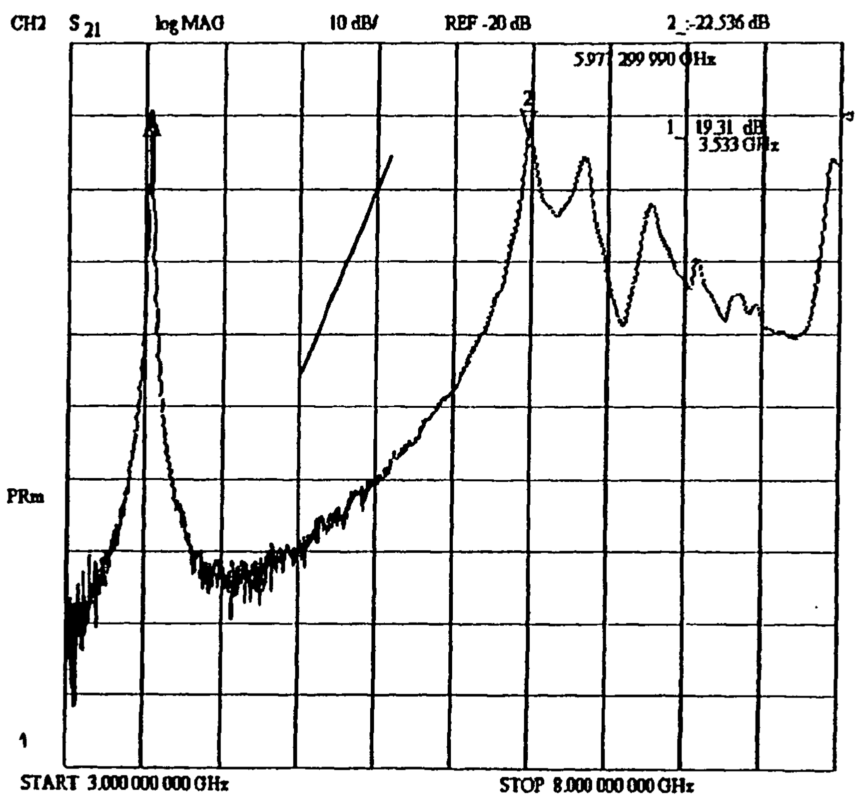
CH2 S 21 log MAG 10 dB/ REF -20 dB 2_:-22.536 dB
5.971 299 990 GHz
1_ 19.31 dB
3.533 GHz
PRm
START 3.000 000 000 GHz
STOP 8.000 000 000 GHz

Figure 6

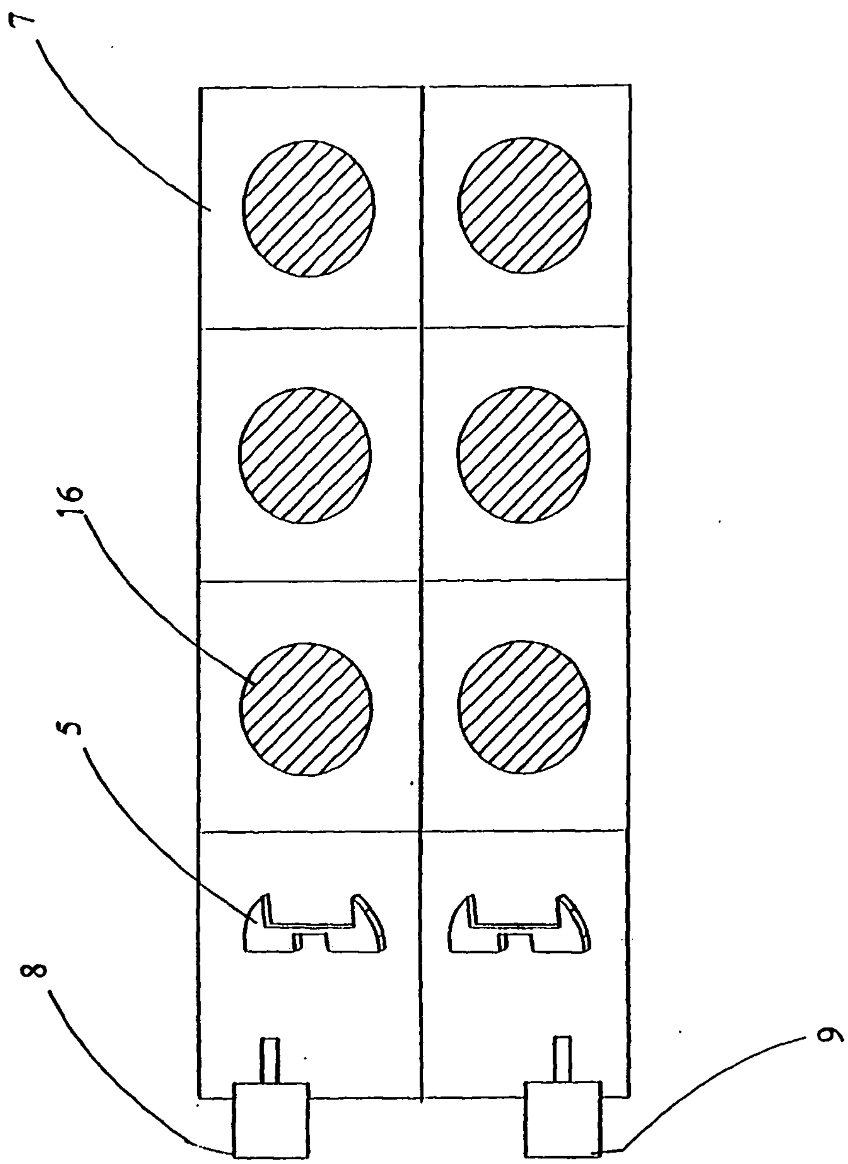

Figure 7

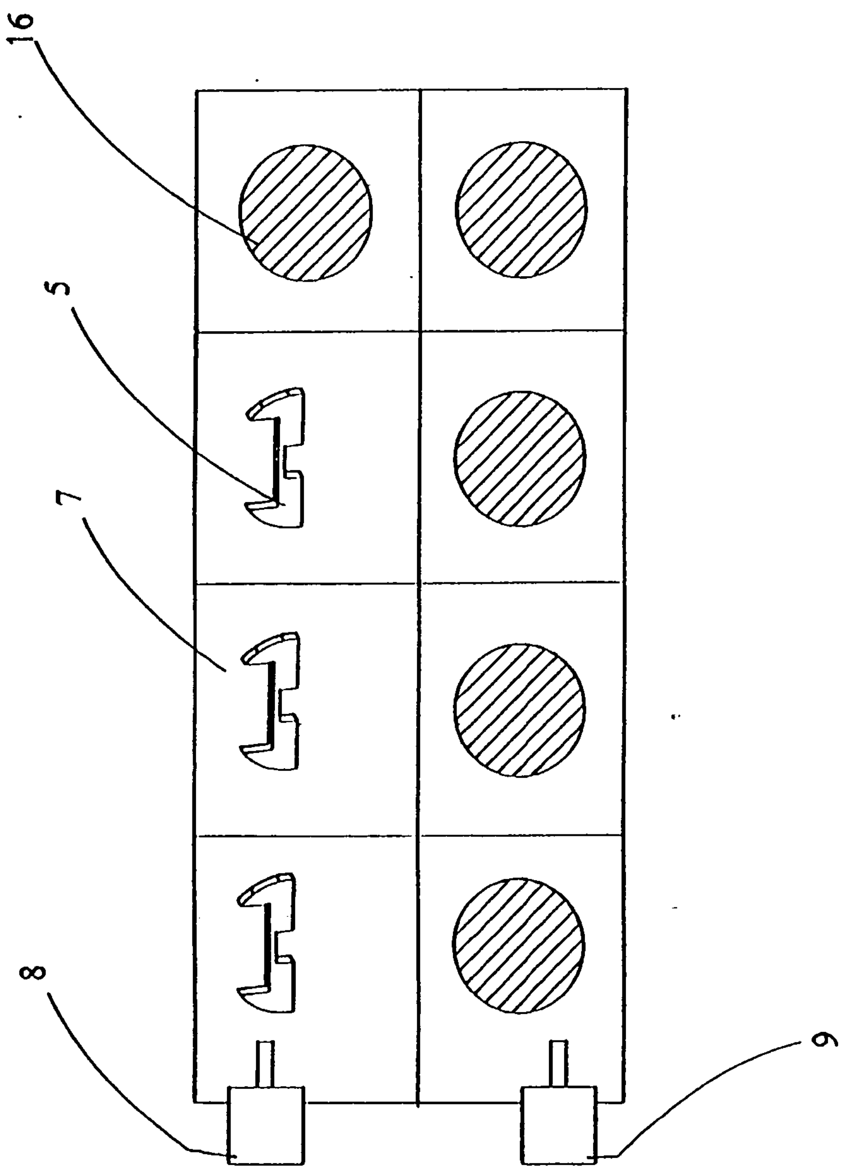

Figure 8

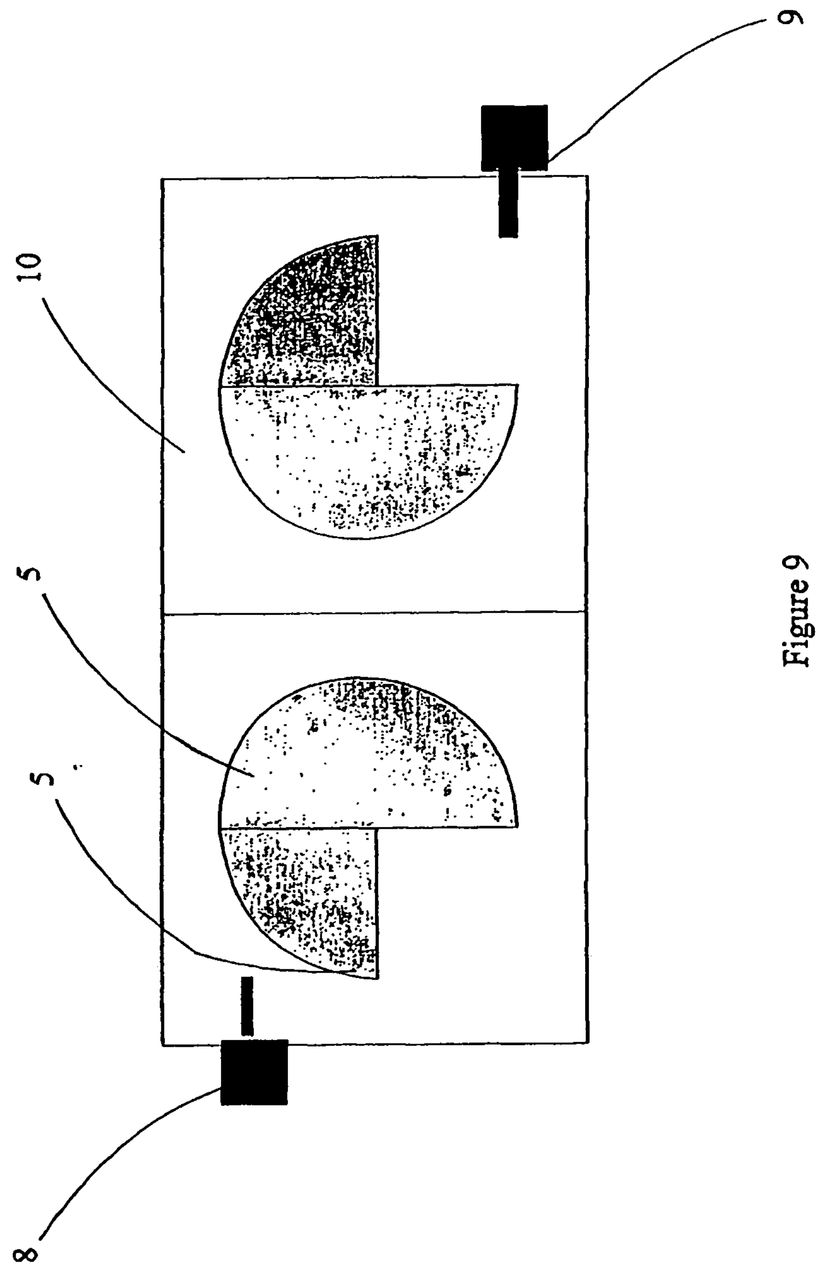

Figure 9

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 01 31 0351

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	US 4 423 397 A (NISHIKAWA TOSHIO ET AL) 27 December 1983 (1983-12-27) * column 8, line 17-22; figures 23,24 *	1,2,19, 20,24	H01P1/208
A	ZAKI K A ET AL: "DUAL MODE CONDUCTOR LOADED CAVITY FILTERS" PROCEEDINGS OF THE 26TH. EUROPEAN MICROWAVE CONFERENCE 1996. PRAGUE, SEPT. 9 - 13, 1996, PROCEEDINGS OF THE EUROPEAN MICROWAVE CONFERENCE, SWANLEY, NEXUS MEDIA, GB, vol. 1 CONF. 26, 9 September 1996 (1996-09-09), pages 159-162, XP000876025 ISBN: 1-899919-08-2 * figures 1,4 *	1,24	
A	CHI WANG ET AL: "Dual mode combined dielectric and conductor loaded cavity filters" MICROWAVE SYMPOSIUM DIGEST, 1997., IEEE MTT-S INTERNATIONAL DENVER, CO, USA 8-13 JUNE 1997, NEW YORK, NY, USA,IEEE, US, 8 June 1997 (1997-06-08), pages 1103-1107, XP010228393 ISBN: 0-7803-3814-6 * figures 1,3 *	1,24	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7) H01P
P,X	H. SALEHI ET AL.: "MODIFIED CONDUCTOR LOADED CAVITY RESONATOR WITH IMPROVED SPURIOUS PERFORMANCE" 2001 IEEE MTT-S INTERNATIONAL MICROWAVE SYMPOSIUM-DIGEST, 20 - 25 May 2001, pages 1779-1782, XP002191324 Phoenix (US) * the whole document *	1-25	

The present search report has been drawn up for all claims

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE	26 February 2002	Den Otter, A

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